

HARLEQUIN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Plays, One Stage: Harlequin Presents *Our Town* and *Sanctuary City* in Repertory

Olympia, WA – September 3, 2026 – Harlequin Productions presents *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder October 2 - November 1 and *Sanctuary City* by Martyna Majok October 9 - 25 at the State Theater in downtown Olympia. Producing Artistic Director Aaron Lamb will direct both productions.

Winner of the 1938 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Our Town has stood as a timeless pillar of the American stage, while Pulitzer Prize winner Martyna Majok's Sanctuary City asks the question: in a nation built on the promise of opportunity, how do we determine who benefits? See both productions for a deeper understanding of what it is to be an American, then and now.

Set in the fictional town of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire, *Our Town* follows two ordinary families through the everyday rhythms of birth, young love, marriage and death, using minimal scenery and a narrating Stage Manager to reveal profound truths hidden inside the smallest moments. *Sanctuary City* takes place in post-9/11 Newark, New Jersey, where two undocumented childhood friends, known only as G and B, rely on each other for safety and belonging until one earns a path to citizenship and the other is left exposed to the uncertainty of life without papers. Though separated by nearly a century, both plays wrestle with the same essential question at the heart of Harlequin's 2026 "Home/Land" season: how do we transform this land into a home big enough for everyone? Wilder's Grover's Corners and Majok's Newark each ask audiences to listen to voices that challenge their assumptions, and to consider that the capacity to hold complexity - joy alongside grief, belonging alongside exclusion - is itself a strength. Together, the two productions widen the lens on the American experience, asking not only who we choose to include, but who we choose to erase, and what it means to call this land home.

This fall, *Our Town* and *Sanctuary City* will perform in repertory, meaning the two productions will alternate performances on the same stage throughout their overlapping runs. It's a format that allows audiences to experience both plays in dialogue with one another over the course of a single weekend. Producing Artistic Director Aaron Lamb explains the choice: "Both *Our Town* and *Sanctuary City* are memory plays, staged without scenery or props, pairing visual simplicity with fragile moments of extraordinary beauty. Both are meditations on the present moment – we live only in the now, we can only see and be informed by the past, and our actions can only impact the future. Each play offers a rich and layered perspective on what it means to be an American. By bringing these two viewpoints to the stage together, we hope to open a conversation with the community that is even more illuminating."

During the run of *Sanctuary City*, Harlequin is partnering with Legal Immigration Services of Olympia (LISO) to raise awareness of their work in the community. LISO is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing free, high-quality legal services to immigrants in detention, serving individuals held at the Northwest ICE Processing Center in Tacoma. Information about LISO's mission and services will be included in Harlequin's programs throughout the run, and a LISO representative will attend the Community Talkback performance on October 11.

Click here for publicity photos for the productions:

<https://harlequinproductions.org/publicity-photos-for-our-town-and-sanctuary-city/>

Click here for a link to the *Our Town* show page: <https://harlequinproductions.org/show/our-town/>

Click here for a link to the *Sanctuary City* show page:

<https://harlequinproductions.org/show/sanctuary-city/>

Production Information

WHAT: Harlequin Productions presents *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder and *Sanctuary City* by Martyna Majok, performed in repertory and directed by Producing Artistic Director Aaron Lamb.

WHEN: *Our Town*: October 2 - November 1, 2026

Sanctuary City: October 9 - 25, 2026

WHERE: State Theater, 202 4th Ave East, Olympia, WA 98501

TICKETS: Available online at harlequinproductions.org, by phone at 360-786-0151, or in person 12–5:30 pm, Tuesday–Saturday at the State Theater Box Office. Pricing applies per performance for each production.

General admission: \$49

Senior 60+/Military: \$47

Student/Youths Under 25: \$35

Rush Tickets (2 hours prior to showtime): \$24.50 General/\$5 Under 20

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE:

Community Talkback (*Our Town*): Sunday, October 4 at 2:00 pm

Community Talkback (*Sanctuary City*): Sunday, October 11 at 2:00 pm

Closed Captioned Night (*Our Town*): Sunday, October 11 at 7:30 pm

Closed Captioned Night (*Sanctuary City*): Sunday, October 18 at 7:30 pm

Pay-What-You-Choose Performances: TBA

CATEGORY: *Our Town* – Classic Drama

Sanctuary City – Contemporary Drama

AGE RECOMMENDATION: *Our Town*: PG, for themes of grief, death, and mortality

Sanctuary City: PG-13, for strong language and mature themes including immigration status, deportation, family separation, and references to domestic abuse

CASTS:

OUR TOWN	SANCTUARY CITY
<i>Stage Manager</i> : Teri Lee Thomas	<i>G</i> : Karissa Chin
<i>Emily Webb</i> : Juliette Jones	<i>B</i> : Kai Sale
<i>George Gibbs</i> : Bil Nowicki	<i>Henry</i> : Ramiro Della Montanyo
<i>Dr. Gibbs</i> : David Gassner	
<i>Mrs. Gibbs</i> : Tracy Kirkpatrick	
<i>Mr. Webb</i> : Frank Delaney	
<i>Mrs. Webb</i> : Kimberlee Wolfson	
<i>Rebecca Gibbs</i> : Olive Beardsley	
<i>Wally Webb</i> : Emma Kleven	
<i>Joe Crowell, Jr.</i> : Luke Reynolds	
<i>Si Crowell</i> : Kieran Nguyen	
<i>Howie Newsome</i> : Andy Gordon	
<i>Professor Willard</i> : Russ Holm	
<i>Simon Stimson</i> : Dennis Rolly	
<i>Constable Warren</i> : Craig Rock	
<i>Mrs. Soames</i> : Edsonya Charles	
<i>Joe Stoddard</i> : Rufus Crane	
<i>Sam Craig</i> : Kai Sale	
<i>Ensemble</i> : Mahayla Joseph	

For more information about the work and life of Thornton Wilder please visit:

<https://thorntonwilder.com/>

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Harlequin Productions is a professional not-for-profit theater company in Olympia, WA. We seek to invigorate, educate, and empower our community and all people to feel more, think more, play more, and judge less through the mirror of real live theatre.
